First Regular Session 111th General Assembly (1999)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1998 General Assembly.

SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 3

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 25-23-1-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 11. (a) Any person who applies to the board for a license to practice as a registered nurse must:

- (1) not have:
 - (A) been convicted of a crime that has a direct bearing on the person's ability to practice competently; or
 - (B) committed an act that would constitute a ground for a disciplinary sanction under IC 25-1-9;
- (2) have completed:
 - (A) the prescribed curriculum and met the graduation requirements of a state accredited program of registered nursing that only accepts students who have a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the board; or
 - (B) the prescribed curriculum and graduation requirements of a nursing education program in a foreign country that is substantially equivalent to a board approved program as determined by the board. The board may by rule adopted under IC 4-22-2 require an applicant under this subsection to successfully complete an examination approved by the board



to measure the applicant's qualifications and background in the practice of nursing and proficiency in the English language; and

(3) be physically and mentally capable of and professionally competent to safely engage in the practice of nursing as determined by the board.

The board may not require a person to have a baccalaureate degree in nursing as a prerequisite for licensure.

- (b) The applicant must pass an examination in such subjects as the board may determine.
- (c) The board may issue by endorsement a license to practice as a registered nurse to an applicant who has been licensed as a registered nurse, by examination, under the laws of another state if the applicant presents proof satisfactory to the board that, at the time that the applicant applies for an Indiana license by endorsement, the applicant holds a current license in another state and possesses credentials and qualifications that are substantially equivalent to requirements in Indiana for licensure by examination. The board may specify by rule what constitutes substantial equivalence under this subsection.
- (d) The board may issue by endorsement a license to practice as a registered nurse to an applicant who:
 - (1) has completed the English version of the Canadian Nurse Association Testing Service Examination;
 - (2) achieved the passing score required on the examination at the time the examination was taken;
 - (3) is currently licensed in a Canadian province or in another state; and
 - (4) meets the other requirements under this section.
- (d) (e) Each applicant for examination and registration to practice as a registered nurse shall pay a fee set by the board. The board may set a proctoring fee to be paid by applicants who are graduates of a state accredited school in another state. Payment of the fee or fees shall be made by the applicant prior to the date of examination.
- (e) (f) Any person who holds a license to practice as a registered nurse in Indiana may use the title "Registered Nurse" and the abbreviation "R.N.". No other person shall practice or advertise as or assume the title of registered nurse or use the abbreviation of "R.N." or any other words, letters, signs, or figures to indicate that the person using same is a registered nurse.
- (f) (g) Any person holding a license or certificate of registration to practice nursing as a registered nurse issued by the board which is valid on December 1, 1971, shall be considered to be licensed as a registered



nurse under this chapter.

SECTION 2. An emergency is declared for this act.



